

challenges that their families are facing.

My friends, we owe it to the hardworking people of our country who are struggling to get by and who are playing by the rules but just waiting for someone to stand up for them rather than the rich guy on Wall Street. We owe it to America's hardworking people to have a serious and thoughtful debate in the hopes of producing a smart and essential budget for our country.

Our colleagues on the other side of the aisle have become captive to an extremist agenda that harms people who are already hurting the most. That's why it's critical we ask our Republican friends, Just what are your priorities? Do we have the courage to come together—not as Democrats or Republicans, but as Americans—and invest in our country's greatest asset—our people; the people who built this great Nation and who we must believe in, now more than ever, to move our country forward to a prosperous and promising future.

A NEVADA HERO: FRANCISCO "FRANK" CEDULA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HECK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HECK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a heroic Nevadan who passed away February 2, 2011. His name was Francisco "Frank" Cedula. He was born in the Philippines in Pasay City on January 7, 1923. Frank studied journalism at the University of Santo Tomas until he joined the Philippine resistance in 1941. At just 17 years old, he fought to disrupt the Japanese military's occupation. Eventually, Frank was captured and tortured by the Japanese, but he managed to escape and rejoin the guerilla fighters.

On December 26, 1941, Frank fought in the Battle of Piis. More than 100 American and Filipino soldiers fought and died in the battle. Their sacrifice gave General MacArthur's troops, his small USAFFE forces, enough time to assemble in Bataan. Commander Cedula was the lone survivor of the 3-day battle. He was bayoneted four times and left for dead. The natives assigned to bury the dead found him alive and nursed him back to health. Once healthy, he again rejoined the guerilla forces and continued the fight. Later in the war, Frank helped liberate American prisoners of war.

When the war ended, Frank served as the Filipino Veterans Legion National Commander for almost three decades. During his term as National Commander, the Filipino Veterans Legion created significant new benefits for their members. In 2005, Commander Cedula authored "Filipino Veterans of WWII—An Endangered Human Specie" to help inform congressional Members and veteran supporters about World War II Filipino veterans who were promised, and later denied, recognition and benefits for 60 years.

Frank was a man who set goals, then accomplished them. Frank achieved one goal when the World War II Filipino Veterans Equity Bill became law. After the law passed, Frank coauthored a new book, "Denial and Restitution by America." This sequel to his first book thanked the congressional and Senate leaders who fought to turn the World War II Filipino Veterans Equity Bill into law.

For 20 years, he planned to construct a memorial marker at kilometer 134 in Quezon, Philippines, to honor and memorialize the men who lost their lives in the battle. Commander Cedula returned from a trip to the Philippines where he finalized the funding for that dream.

I am honored to call Commander Cedula a friend and a Nevadan.

CONGRATULATING WORLD CHAMPION GREEN BAY PACKERS ON WINNING SUPER BOWL XLV

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and thank my good friend and colleague from the Pittsburgh area, JASON ALTMIRE, for delivering on his Super Bowl bet with me last evening.

As we now know, a little over a week ago, my Green Bay Packers defeated his Pittsburgh Steelers 31-25 to win Super Bowl XLV. It was the Packers' 13th world title and their fourth Super Bowl victory, enabling them to bring home once again, where it belongs, the Vince Lombardi Trophy to Titledown, USA—Green Bay, Wisconsin.

□ 1020

To the victor belongs the spoils. So, last night, JASON and his staff delivered to my office some of Pittsburgh's finest cuisine—Primanti sandwiches and Iron City brew. Now, it didn't quite rival the world-famous tailgate parties that we have at Lambeau Field, but it wasn't bad.

We may have fun with our sports teams around here from time to time; but it is also useful to remind ourselves that at the end of the day, when the game is played and the score is settled, it is only just a game.

No one expressed that more eloquently than the MVP of Super Bowl XLV, the Green Bay Packers' quarterback, Aaron Rodgers. It was recently reported that, earlier in the season, Aaron Rodgers had sent a big care package out to his former girlfriend's elementary school in California, where she is teaching. In it was a host of school supplies, along with a bunch of Packer T-shirts and sweatshirts and other Packer paraphernalia. Also included in the care package was a note that Aaron Rodgers wrote to his former girlfriend, the teacher of that class, which read: Just to be clear, what you're doing in your life right now is a heck of a lot more important than what I'm doing in my life.

It's really refreshing to see a professional athlete at the peak of his career, at the height of his game, stay so well-grounded and understand what really is important to the future of our country, which is the future of our children and their educational success in the classroom. Whether he called for it or not, Aaron Rodgers has turned into a terrific role model for all of our children across this country. It is a constant reminder of the challenges that we still face and of the values that we still must hold dear in this country.

So I, too, want to congratulate Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers football team for their success; I want to congratulate the Packers organization and the tens of thousands of Packers fans who are part owners of the Packers franchise, including my own family.

In the immortal words of my 12-year-old son, Matthew, who turned to me shortly after their Super Bowl victory last week: Hey, Dad. You know, that was a lot of fun. Let's do it again.

So, indeed, let's do this again next season. I wish the Packers well, and I thank JASON ALTMIRE and his staff for delivering the goodies to our office last night.

BLOWING SMOKE AMIDST DIRE FINANCIAL STRAITS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFazio) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFazio. Madam Speaker, our Nation is in dire financial straits, and, unfortunately, many on both sides of the aisle are blowing smoke about how serious they are in dealing with this problem.

The fact is we are looking at a record \$1.6 trillion deficit. Now, it wouldn't have been a record and it wouldn't have been \$1.6 trillion but for one vote: the Obama-McConnell tax compromise, the Republicans insisting that all of the Bush tax cuts passed in a time of surplus should be continued in a time of record deficits. That means, with borrowed money, there will be tax cuts for millionaires and billionaires and other special interests, or we will forgo the revenue of having them pay their fair share of taxes, say the rate they paid in the Clinton era when the economy did very well and they did very well.

So with that one single vote, suddenly we jumped up to a \$1.6 trillion deficit. Now, the Republican majority says, oh, no, no, no, that cutting taxes doesn't count. Their rules deem that cutting taxes doesn't count. We can cut taxes without reducing spending; we can borrow the money and increase the deficit and the debt, but they say it doesn't count. They have deemed that in their rules. So they're really blowing smoke here. You cannot pretend that you're serious about the deficit if you say we can continue to reduce income. Here is what this year's Federal budget looks like.

This is the total budget. Look, we are borrowing from China and other places around the world almost half of what we're spending. We are borrowing \$1.6 trillion, and the Federal tax revenue is \$2.2 billion. Those are just extraordinary numbers. Now, they say they'll fix that by cutting. Well, here we go. Here we go again with the budget at \$3.8 trillion and the deficit at \$1.6 trillion.

They said, Well, wait a minute. You can't increase revenues. No. You could decrease revenues. They say that wouldn't count. Then, Oh, well. The Department of Defense is off limits. Entitlements are all off limits. Mandatory spending, meaning agriculture subsidies and other egregious things, are all off limits. We will balance the budget by going after non-defense discretionary spending.

There seems to be a little bit of a problem here.

Here is the deficit of \$1.6 trillion. Now, if we eliminated all non-defense discretionary spending, which would mean basically the daily operations of the Government of the United States outside the Defense Department, it would be all gone; close the door; open the Federal prisons, and let the prisoners out. There would be no more Justice Department, no more FBI, no more Border Patrol, none of those things. Just get rid of all that stuff—the IRS, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Education, health education, the Centers for Disease Control. All gone.

Well, you would still have a \$1 trillion deficit. But don't worry, they're going to get us there by cutting.

You can't get there simply by cutting. Yes, you need to cut. You need to reduce and eliminate wasteful programs, but you can't pretend that you can cut revenues or that you can maintain tax loopholes for companies that move their headquarters to post office boxes in the Bahamas, like Carnival Cruise Lines—excuse me, their post office box is in Panama—which operate out of the U.S., get their customers in the U.S., use the ports of the U.S., use the U.S. Coast Guard, and whose executives live in the U.S. but they don't pay taxes here.

There is ExxonMobil, which doesn't pay taxes in the United States, but pays in other places around the world. We borrow money to give a subsidy to ExxonMobil. Yet in the last quarter of last year, they had the largest single corporate profit in the history of the world, and we're going to borrow money to give them tax rebates for taxes they didn't pay in the United States of America but that they paid elsewhere.

That system can't be fixed, the Republicans say. Those will be tax increases. You can't plug those tax loopholes. The agriculture subsidies pay people \$20 billion not to grow things. No, can't go there. We're going to balance the budget by hacking away at non-defense discretionary spending.

Unfortunately, physics and reality don't work for them here, nor does the math because it's a tiny fraction of the deficit if we totally eliminate those programs instead of just hack away at them.

So let's get real. Let's get together here. The country is confronted with a serious long-term debt problem. As everybody said yesterday, everything is on the table. Well, it's not, but everything should be on the table.

THE ASSAULT ON THE VOICE OF AMERICA—PUBLIC BROADCASTING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the next few days on the floor of the House will be critical for the future of public broadcasting.

With the new Republican majority, people here are hoping for saving less than one cent per day on this ideological assault—on what?—public broadcasting, for 170 million Americans, their Voice of America and their window to the world.

In an era when local papers and radio stations are being gobbled up by large conglomerates, public broadcasting's 1,300 stations around the country are increasingly the only source of locally owned, locally controlled content.

Now, there is a lot of attention appropriately given to the major stations in America's large cities. We've all seen and heard programming from stations in Boston and San Francisco, New York, even in Portland, Oregon, as Oregon Public Broadcasting is recognized as one of these national leaders. For much of America outside the major metropolitan areas, public broadcasting actually plays an even more important role.

In the Rockies, the Pacific Northwest, rural areas, and the upper Midwest, often public broadcasting is not just the best local source. It is the only source of information that relates directly to their communities. The big stations in the large communities are going to be harmed by this assault on public broadcasting.

□ 1030

My own public broadcasting in Oregon will lose \$2.4 million. It will really harm the quality of their effort. But it is in rural and small town America that the greatest damage will be done. For example, in eastern Oregon, it costs 11 times as much to get a signal to Burns as it does in the more populist Willamette Valley, and there simply isn't the base of population to make up for the difference with local contributions.

It's ironic that these partisans are attacking one of America's best public-private partnerships. It's not uncommon for the public investment to leverage \$6 or more of private investment to make this high quality programming possible.

Now, there are some who claim that in an era of 500 cable and satellite stations that we don't need another source of information. Well, those people fail to grasp the power of non-commercial, public broadcasting, how it is unique today. There are countless shows that are directed towards America's kids, but public broadcasting provides the only children's programming that is trying to educate and entertain our children, not sell them something.

The public supports public broadcasting, not just in opinion polls, but with tens of millions of dollars of voluntary contributions that they make every year to provide the quality programming.

I fear that this reckless partisan assault on public broadcasting is actually going to hurt our long-term efforts to tame the budget deficit. Trading a savings of less than one-half cent per day per American won't offset the damage to public confidence by eliminating what so many people believe in and count upon.

More important, it will be a loss of a valuable tool to educate and inform the public from a respected nonpartisan source, exactly how we're going to need to get information to Americans to deal with this massive deficit problem that we face.

For those of us working to meet America's challenges, public broadcasting is an essential ally; but I will say that with the tremendous outpouring of support that we are now seeing, people calling and writing Members of Congress, stopping them on the street, I think there is a good chance that those 1,300 public broadcasting stations will still be here in the future helping inform the debates of today, if all of us do our job, listen to the public, and do what is in the best long-term interests of this country.

ON EXTENDING THE PATRIOT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, last year I voted to extend the Patriot Act for 1 year. I regret that vote and was glad to have been able to correct it, although I'm pained that the House voted otherwise yesterday.

During this past year, I have become convinced that the provisions of the so-called Patriot Act are an affront to the Bill of Rights and a serious threat to our fundamental liberty as Americans.

The Fourth Amendment arises from the abuses of the British Crown that allowed roving searches by revenue agents under the guise of what were called "writs of assistance" or "general warrants." Instead of following specific allegations against specific individuals, the Crown's revenue agents were given free rein to search indiscriminately.

In 1761, the famous colonial leader James Otis challenged these writs, arguing that "a man's house is his castle;